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NO MEANS NO

Public School Supporters Promise Continued Fight Against Using Public Funds for Private Schools

April 9, 2024, Lincoln, NE – Public school supporters are telling state senators to respect Nebraskans’ wishes and right to vote on whether they support using public tax dollars to fund private schools. Lawmakers are considering a new voucher scheme this year, LB1402, and will be voting on the issue tonight and again tomorrow.

“State lawmakers need to respect Nebraskans’ wishes and that means senators need to vote no on LB1402, no on the bill, and no on a cloture vote,” said Jenni Benson, president of the Nebraska State Education Association.

Last summer, it took fewer than 90 days for 117,415 Nebraskans to sign a referendum petition seeking the repeal of LB753, a tax voucher scheme some lawmakers pushed through in the 2023 legislative session.

“Sen. Lou Ann Linehan and her out-of-state billionaires want to deny Nebraskans' right to vote on this issue by pushing yet another voucher bill that would drain public funds from our public schools and give public funds to private schools that can discriminate against kids and are not held to the same financial and other accountability standards as public schools,” Benson said.

The Legislature is poised to vote yet tonight on LB1402, Sen. Linehan’s bill that could repeal the LB753 voucher scheme but replace it with an even more draconian voucher scam that directly appropriates public funds to private schools. **Passage of LB1402’s voucher scheme would essentially deny Nebraskans the right to vote in November on whether they support giving public funds to private schools.**

“Instead of sending public dollars to private schools, which are under no obligation to serve all children, state funds should be used to support the public schools that 9 out of 10 Nebraska students attend,” said Benson.

Benson is encouraging voters to contact their state senator to vote no on LB1402 – both the bill and the cloture motion: <https://www.nsea.org/action>

*The Nebraska State Education Association is a member-directed
professional employee organization representing 25,000 public school teachers
and other educational professionals across Nebraska.*

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